

**THE PADRE PIO  
PRAYER GROUP  
of Cleveland**

**Spiritual Director:**  
Fr. Edward J. Janoch

**Chaplains:**  
Fr. William E. Browne  
Fr. Michael Petkosek  
Fr. Kevin C. Shemuga

**Group Leader:**  
Cindy Russo TOF

**UPCOMING  
EVENTS:**

**Nov 29 -**  
Advent starts

**Nov 30-Dec 24 -**  
St. Andrew  
Christmas Novena  
(see page 5 of this  
newsletter)

**Dec 5 -**  
Padre Pio Prayer  
Group Gathering  
beginning with  
Rosary at 8:00 AM  
and Mass at 8:30 AM,  
Our Lady of  
Guadalupe Church,  
9080 Shepard Rd,  
Macedonia

*Check the online  
Community Bulletin  
Board on our website  
to view upcoming  
events in the area*



# St. Padre Pio Prayer Group Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2020

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 11

## Do You Want to Be a Saint?

Do you think you are worthy to be a saint or do you think it is ambitious to aspire to be a saint? Actually we all want to be saints because saints are the citizens of heaven and, therefore, if you want to go to heaven, you want to be a saint. When we think of saints, we think of people who are proclaimed saints by the Church and canonized in a big ceremony in St. Peter's Square. But we also know people in our own lives who are saints, perhaps a grandparent or parent, an aunt or uncle, a brother or sister, a neighbor, a priest, or a friend who have lived a virtuous life. They weren't perfect but they were filled with love. We admired them and remain grateful to them after they have died. So, you don't have to be perfect to be a saint. You have to be faithful to be a saint: faithful to using the gifts God gave you, faithful to living the Gospel way of Jesus Christ, faithful to the truth, honest and humble. This is a tall order, but it is lived out over the course of a lifetime.

The key to being a saint is to recognize that we need a Savior and we do not save ourselves. Indeed, there is a God and I am not God. I am His creature, created out of love and sustained in existence each day by God's love. The key to being a saint is to recognize one's dependence upon God. Complete surrender. Our self-sufficiency and tendency to be independent

are obstacles to becoming a saint because it becomes all about me. It is not all about me; it is about us and our journeying together through this life to life on high with Jesus Christ in the Kingdom of love.

The other obstacle to becoming a saint that is prevalent today is the tendency to think that this life is all there is. It is not. This life is but a preparation for eternal life with God. If we expect this life to meet all our needs, we will be disappointed. If we expect other people to take our loneliness away, we will smother the relationship.



Have you ever meditated on what would you be a patron saint of? Padre Pio was the patron Saint of pain, suffering, healing, civil defense volunteers, doctors, nurses, adolescents, and stress-relief. Saint Augustine said it well long ago: "You have made us for yourself, Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you."

Do you want to be a saint? Then love passionately, compassionately and yet, with a gentle grasp on life. Do you want to get to heaven? Then embrace life and let go of life. Love deeply but freely. Attending Eucharistic Adoration, Holy Mass, reconciliation, praying the rosary, reading scripture and books about the saints, to name a few. Pray to Saints for guidance and support. Pray for and to the people in your life who on earth who were like saints. Trust in the promise of Jesus' Sacred Heart to live in His Heart forever. This is the path to holiness.

**With humble gratitude, let us pray for the intercession of our newly beatified:  
Blessed Carlo Acutis and Blessed Michael McGivney. Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Is anyone among you suffering? He should pray. Is anyone in good spirits? He should sing praise. Is anyone among you sick? He should summon the presbyters of the church, and they should pray over him and anoint [him] with oil in the name of the Lord and the prayer of faith will save the sick person, and the Lord will raise him up. If he has committed any sins, he will be forgiven.*

—Letter according to Saint James 5:13-15



On Monday, October 26, 2020, I received a phone message that an individual needed to be anointed. He was at Anna Maria of Solon and I was allowed to go in and anoint and administer the Apostolic Pardon to this gentleman. I could tell that he was not “long for this world” and his death would be soon. In fact, he died that night. On Thursday, October 29, 2020, I had his funeral. This event reminded me of a gentleman that I anointed in May. He was at home and his family called the parish office, looking for a priest to anoint their dad. I said that I would go. Our elderly pastor, at that time, would not go because he was about to retire in June. I thought about going or not going

and I decided that I would go to the home. Nursing homes and hospitals were still not letting anyone in at that time. This gentleman also died on the night that he was anointed. I mention these incidents because many hundreds of people during this COVID-19 pandemic were denied the opportunity to receive Holy Communion and/or the Anointing of the Sick. How many people died with the reception of these Sacraments?

As we enter into the month of November, the month that we remember the dead, we need to pray more for the deceased of this past year because many of them could not receive the Sacraments of Holy Communion or the Anointing of the Sick. Many souls may have been lost or are going to spend more “time” in Purgatory because priests were not allowed to bring these Sacraments to the sick and dying. This year we need to double our efforts to pray for the recently departed. We can do the following [and more] to help these souls who are in dire need of our help.

## 20 WAYS TO PRAY FOR THE HOLY SOULS IN PURGATORY

1. Pray the Novena to the Holy Souls.
2. Offer up your Holy Communions for the souls in purgatory.
3. Have Masses said for your departed loved ones, especially on the anniversary of his or her death.
4. Pray The Way Of The Cross for Souls in Purgatory.
5. Pray the Rosary. After the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the Holy Rosary is the most powerful prayer.
6. Obtain indulgences: Indulgences reduce or cancel the temporal punishment that we incur through sin. There are many ways to obtain indulgences through pious actions, and we can apply their merits to the dead. If you visit a church or oratory on All Souls Day and there recite the Lord's Prayer and the Apostle's Creed, you can earn a plenary (full) indulgence applicable only to the souls in purgatory (under the usual conditions).

(Continued on page 9)

## Light in the Darkness

Pope John Paul, early in his pontificate, stated that the world was witnessing the biggest showdown between good and evil in the history of the church but very few people were aware of it. Currently, the whole world is witnessing conflict on many levels. Many believers define the conflict in terms of an apocalyptic battle between God and Satan.

Many people are praying for an end to the COVID virus. Might it be better to pray that the world interprets correctly and learns the lesson that God wants to teach us through the virus? Is it a chastisement with God desperately trying to get us to our knees so that we repent of our sins and live the Gospel?

Believers should not simply complain about how bad things are. We should realize that God is in control and has been speaking to us through apparitions since the mid 1800's. Some popes have said that we are in the age of Mary.

Many American Christians were quite discouraged during the previous presidential administration when there was a process of radical secularization. As we read the signs of the times, we can have great hope that despite the raging battle between good and evil, God's grace is breaking through in powerful ways. How? Here are a few examples:

- Until Mel Gibson's movie "The Passion of the Christ" in the early 2000's there were hardly any Christian movies. Movie producers little by little are producing very good quality Christian, Catholic, and pro-life movies.
- EWTN was born in 1981 in a miraculous way by Mother Angelica and now is worldwide thriving on only donations from viewers and listeners.
- Pope John Paul, who humbly said he was specially chosen

by Mary, almost singlehandedly stabilized the Post-Vatican council church; brought back Marian devotion; and Eucharistic Adoration; made great strides in Ecumenism and Jewish-Christian relations; and brought the downfall of communism in Europe. He also lifted the ban on the Divine Mercy Devotion which has spread like a holy wildfire.

- The churches, both Evangelical and Catholic, are growing rapidly in Africa and Asia.
- Vocations to the Priesthood are growing in our country.
- New religious orders of nuns are sprouting throughout the world.
- Evangelicals who had kept their distance from the Catholic church are now much more conciliatory due to the common profile effort.
- Rosary Rallies and movements like 40 Days for Life are now commonplace and have a lot of support from the faithful.
- Pope Francis has an open mind about the apparitions at Medjugorje where pilgrims continue to go.
- The Bishop of Garabandal has reopened the investigation as to its authenticity.
- Our current President is the most pro-life president in the history of our country. He has appointed over 200 federal judges and three Supreme Court justices who respect the Constitution. The most recent one, Amy Coney Barrett, gave the whole country an opportunity to see a woman who beautifully embodies all that is good in our Catholic faith. Hooray Judge Amy!
- Our President is also diligently working to stamp out religious persecution throughout the world. He refers openly to God in his talks, says "Merry Christmas" instead of "Happy Holidays," and is working to restore prayer in public schools, among other things.

We see God working in powerful ways. However, the battle still rages and there are many of Satan's obstacles to overcome, such as the growth of Satanism, Marxist and anarchy groups, militant atheism, secularism, socialism, and many people who no longer practice their faith.

Through heeding our Lady's messages of prayer and penance, we are stemming the tide of Satan's attack. Isn't it a privilege to be born at a time like this when God is counting on us to win the victory of the triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary?



## For the Holy Souls.../November 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 All the Saints of God. <i>Pray for us!</i>	2 For the holy souls of all the faithful departed. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i> [See below for the entire prayer]	3 For the holy souls of your departed parents and family. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i>	4 For the holy souls of those who died of epidemics or famine. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i>	5 For the holy souls whose memory has vanished from this world. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i>	6 For the holy souls that had a special devotion to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i>	7 For the holy souls that had a special devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i>
8 <b>ALL SAINTS</b> For the holy souls that suffer the greatest torments. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i>	9 The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed [All Souls] For the holy souls of those who died unexpectedly or without receiving the Holy Sacraments. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i>	10 [31 <sup>st</sup> Week in Ordinary Time] St. Martin de Porres For the holy souls of popes, bishops, priests, and deacons. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i>	11 St. Charles Borromeo For the holy souls of those who died in war. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i>	12 Weekday For the holy souls that have been long detained in purgatory. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i>	13 Weekday First Friday For the holy souls of those who dedicated themselves to the education of the youth in piety. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i>	14 Weekday BVM First Saturday For the holy souls that undergo severe torments for their sins against chastity. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i>
15 <b>32<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b> For the holy souls of your departed friends. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i>	16 THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA For the holy souls of all consecrated religious. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i>	17 St. Leo the Great For the holy souls of those who showed great love of neighbor. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i>	18 St. Martin of Tours Veterans' Day For the holy souls of those who contributed to the growth of priestly and religious vocations. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i>	19 St. Josaphat For the holy souls of those who worked for peace in the world. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i>	20 St. Frances Xavier Cabrini For the holy souls of those that leave this world this very moment. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i>	21 Weekday BVM For the holy souls of those who did not give proper honor to Our Lady. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i>
22 <b>33<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b> For the holy souls that did not give proper honor to our Lord. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i>	23 Weekday St. Margaret of Scotland St. Gertrude For the holy souls of those who contributed to the conversion of sinners. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i>	24 St. Elizabeth of Hungary For the holy souls of those who persecuted you in your lifetime. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i>	25 Weekday The Dedication of the Basilicas of Ss. Peter and Paul St. Rose Philippine Duchesne For the holy souls of those who long lived without forgiving their enemies. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i>	26 Weekday Thanksgiving Day For the holy souls of those who suffer because of their unyielding and arrogant attitude toward others. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i>	27 Weekday For the holy souls that suffer in purgatory because of me. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i>	28 Weekday BVM The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary For the holy souls of those who die a disgraceful or tragic death. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i>
29 <b>OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE</b> For the holy souls that shall be delivered from purgatory this very hour. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i>	30 Weekday [34 <sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time] St. Clement I St. Columban Bl. Miguel Agustin Pro For the holy souls of those who valiantly gave witness to their faith before others. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i>	31 St. Andrew Dung-Lac and Companions For the holy souls of those who were persecuted for their faith. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i>	1 Weekday For the holy souls of those who were persecuted for their faith. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i>	2 Weekday For the holy souls of those who were persecuted for their faith. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i>	3 Weekday For the holy souls of those who were persecuted for their faith. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i>	4 Weekday For the holy souls of those who were persecuted for their faith. <i>Eternal rest grant...</i>
1 <sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT	ST. ANDREW	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PRAYER OF SAINT GERTRUDE FOR THE HOLY SOULS IN PURGATORY</b></p> <p><b>Eternal Father, I offer You the most Precious Blood of Your Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, for all sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal Church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen.</b> [During one of these visions Gertrude was given a prayer by Jesus for the Holy Souls in Purgatory. It is piously believed that 1,000 souls are released from purgatory by praying this prayer with the heart.]</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>THE ETHERNAL REST PRAYER</b></p> <p><b>Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.</b> [Pray this prayer after each of the daily petitions for the holy souls.]</p>				

# Jake's Corner

Written by: Jake Snyder

For November, I am writing about Blessed James Alberione, the media apostle. He was

born in San Lorenzo di Fossano in Italy, on 4 April 1884 and baptized the very next day. Blessed James Alberione was born into a very pious family and from an early age wanted to be a priest. When he was 16, he entered into the Seminary of Alba.



Paul. He later founded other branches of the Pauline Family whose purpose is to spread the Gospel using modern means of communications.

Blessed James Alberione continued his Apostolate throughout the rest of his life. He died at the age of 87 on November 26, 1971 in the odor of sanctity. On June 25, 1996, Pope Saint John Paul II signed the decree recognizing the heroic virtues. The Venerable Servant of God James Alberione was Beatified on April 23, 2003, by Pope Saint John Paul II.

On December 31, 1900, he had a very profound experience while praying before the Most Blessed Sacrament. During his time before the Blessed Sacrament, he felt that Jesus was calling him to serve the Church and the people of God using new ways of evangelization. He was ordained a priest on June 29, 1907.

Fr. Alberione felt a call to be like Saint Paul the Apostle and use modern ways of communication to spread the Good News. He eventually founded the Pauline Family on August 20, 1914 beginning with the Society of Saint

Blessed James Alberione is a perfect example of Holiness for our times. He truly had a great desire to bring Jesus to everyone using modern ways to evangelize. He is a perfect example that we too can be evangelizers by using modern ways of social media. Blessed James Alberione, pray for us.

SOURCE: [https://www.vatican.va/news\\_services/liturgy/saints/ns\\_lit\\_doc\\_20030427\\_alberione\\_en.html](https://www.vatican.va/news_services/liturgy/saints/ns_lit_doc_20030427_alberione_en.html)

## Prophecy of Our Lady of Good Success (Quito, Ecuador 1594)

"Pray constantly, implore tirelessly, and weep bitter tears in the seclusion of your heart, beseeching the Eucharistic Heart of my Son to take pity on His ministers and to end as soon as possible these unhappy times."



## St. Andrew Christmas Novena (The Christmas Anticipation Prayer)

*Prayed 15 times a day from November 30 through December 24*



Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires [*here mention your request*] through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ, and of His blessed Mother. Amen.

October 20, 2020

Dear Fellow Padre Pio members:

I hope you are all in the “Pray, Hope, and Don’t Worry” way of life. November 1 & 2 are Feast days that bring Padre Pio’s words to mind. One of the “Grippen’s” (That’s what St. John Vianney called Satan because he refused to pay him any respect with his proper name) most effective deceptions is to try to get us to think that we are all alone and that we have no chance in a one on one battle with him.

All Saints call to mind the “Cloud of Witnesses” we hear of in the Letter to the Hebrews. They are the countless friends and advocates that we have in heaven that constantly intercede for us as we continue our earthly journey toward union with them. As I try to envision Jacob’s ladder, with the angels coming up and down, I am certain that the Saints are at the top to keep encouraging us to take one more step toward them.

All Soul’s Day reminds us that “The Souls of the just are in the hand of God” (Isaiah 43:1) and how loving is the hand that created and formed us. God has called us to glorious destiny to which he leads us with the help of so many “Friends in Christ”. The call to pray for the poor souls in purgatory, which a lot of us have heard when we were children, is even more urgent now as we long to join them.

Keep All Saints and All Soul’s Day at the forefront of your thoughts and prayers. We all need the help and Jesus tells us the more we have concern for others, the less we need to have concern for ourselves.

Yours in Christ!

Fr. Bill Browne

## The History of Advent

The liturgical season of Advent marks the time of spiritual preparation by the faithful before Christmas. Advent begins on the Sunday closest to the feast of St. Andrew the Apostle (November 30). It spans four Sundays and four weeks of preparation, although the last week of Advent is usually truncated because of when Christmas falls.

The celebration of Advent has evolved in the spiritual life of the Church. The historical origins of Advent are hard to determine with great precision. In its earliest form, beginning in France, Advent was a period of preparation for the feast of the Epiphany, a day when converts were baptized; so the Advent preparation was very similar to Lent with an emphasis on prayer and fasting which lasted three weeks and later was expanded to 40 days. In 380, the local Council of Saragossa, Spain, established a three-week fast before Epiphany. Inspired by the Lenten regulations, the local Council of Macon, France, in 581 designated that from November 11, the feast of St. Martin of Tours, until Christmas, fasting would be required on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Eventually, similar practices spread to England. In Rome, the Advent preparation did not appear until the sixth century, and was viewed as a preparation for Christmas with less of a penitential bent.

The Church gradually more formalized the celebration of Advent. The Gelasian Sacramentary, traditionally attributed to Pope St. Gelasius I (d. 496), was the first to provide Advent liturgies for five Sundays. Later, Pope St. Gregory I (d. 604) enhanced these liturgies composing prayers, antiphons, readings and responses. Pope St. Gregory VII (d. 1095) later reduced the number of Sundays in Advent to four. Finally, about the ninth century, the Church designated the first Sunday of Advent as the beginning of the Church year.

Despite the “sketchy” history behind Advent, the importance of this season remains to focus on the coming of our Lord. (Advent comes from the Latin *adventus*, meaning “coming.”) The *Catechism* stresses the two-fold meaning of this

“coming”: “When the Church celebrates the liturgy of Advent each year, she makes present this ancient expectancy of the Messiah, for by sharing in the long preparation for the Savior’s first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for His second coming” (No. 524).

Therefore, on one hand, the faithful reflect and are encouraged to celebrate the anniversary of the Lord’s first coming into this world. We ponder again the great mystery of the incarnation when our Lord humbled Himself, taking on our humanity, and entered our time and space to free us from sin. On the other hand, we recall in the Creed that our Lord will come again to judge the living and the dead and that we must be ready to meet Him.



A good, pious way to help us in our Advent preparation has been the use of the Advent wreath. (Interestingly, the use of the Advent wreath was borrowed from the German Lutherans in the early 1500s.) The wreath is a circle, which has no beginning or end; so we call to mind how our lives, here and now, participate in the eternity of God’s plan of salvation and how we hope to share eternal life in the kingdom of heaven. The wreath is made of fresh plant material, because

Christ came to give us new life through His passion, death and resurrection. Three candles are purple, symbolizing penance, preparation and sacrifice; the pink candle symbolizes the same but highlights the third Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday, when we rejoice because our preparation is now half-way finished. The light represents Christ, who entered this world to scatter the darkness of evil and show us the way of righteousness. The progression of lighting candles shows our increasing readiness to meet our Lord.

Each family ought to have an Advent wreath, light it at dinner time and say the special prayers. This tradition will help each family keep its focus on the true meaning of Christmas. In all, during Advent we strive to fulfill the opening prayer for the Mass of the First Sunday of Advent: “Father in Heaven... increase our longing for Christ our Savior and give us the strength to grow in love, that the dawn of His coming may find us rejoicing in His presence and welcoming the light of His truth.”

SOURCE: <https://catholicexchange.com/the-history-of-the-advent-season>

## Dear Spiritual Brothers and Sisters of Padre Pio

At our last prayer gathering in October, I was overwhelmed with our attendance. It is wonderful to see such faithful devotees. Thank you to Fr. Michael Petkosek and Fr. Edward Janoch for the beautiful Mass celebration, confession, teachings and the personal witness. This month we will have a candle memorial for the deceased members of our Prayer Group from this past year. On the last page of this newsletter is the list of our deceased members and friends. Please keep them and their families in your prayers. It is a very difficult time, this time of year, for the families. Always remember to pray for the Holy Souls in purgatory. St. Faustina (Diary 820) states "My prayer is needed by a dying soul. My Guardian Angel told me to pray for a certain soul, and in the morning I learned that it was a man whose agony had begun that very moment. The Lord Jesus makes it known to me in a special way when someone is in need of my prayer. I especially know when my prayer is needed by a dying soul. This happens more often now than it did in the past."



I want to thank everyone who has joined in on the Consecration to Our Lady of Guadalupe's Mantle. We are praying in union with Ireland, England, Africa, Australia, Croatia and across the United States that I know of. The participants are called "stars". Our stars are lighting up the world! I will have more details next month about the Consecration event on December 12.

The Rosary Rally at Twinsburg Square on October 10 was a success. Thank you to all 75 prayer warriors who attended, Deb Stanzak coordinator, the Knights of Columbus, and the City of Twinsburg.



Thanksgiving this year will not be the same for many of us. Families may not be traveling because of restrictions. Some people may be all alone. COVID makes me be more thankful and appreciate all the graces and blessings that God has given me. I am full of gratitude at being chosen the Group Leader. It is not easy, but my heart is full of joy. I want to thank each and every one of you. You are all an important part of our Padre Pio Familia. God has given you each a role using your talents for the better of the group. I include you and your intentions in my nightly prayers. The ministry has changed this year but it has been fruitful. I am full of gratitude and blessings.

For the December prayer gathering, please bring your Baby Jesus from your Creche. At Mass there will be a special Christmas blessing for the Baby Jesus and for your family. We are having a Padre Pio Christmas Candle shrine fundraiser. Anyone interested in supporting the event can pre-order the candle at this November prayer gathering. Order forms will be available. They will be ready for pickup at the December prayer gathering after Mass. It makes a great gift to give to our family, friends and the sick. The cost is \$6.00 each.



Happy Thanksgiving,

Cindy Russo TOF  
Group Leader

(Continued from page 2)

7. Give alms: The giving of material assistance to the poor has always been considered a penance that can be offered for the Holy Souls. *"For almsgiving saves from death and purges away every sin" (Tobit 12:9).*

8. Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet for the intention of the Holy Souls.

9. Prayer of Saint Gertrude for the Holy Souls: this prayer is attributed to Saint Gertrude the Great and was the prayer by which she obtained the release of many souls from purgatory. (see the last page of this newsletter)

10. Sprinkle holy water on the ground: Saint John Macias, a great friend of those in purgatory, would often sprinkle holy water on the ground for the spiritual benefit of the suffering souls.

11. When passing by a cemetery, pray the short Eternal Rest prayer. This prayer carries a partial indulgence applicable to the poor souls:

***"Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen."***

12. Practice the tradition of praying the Eternal Rest prayer (above) before and after your meals as an easy way to remember to pray for the holy souls every day. You can also pray the prayer between the decades of your daily rosary.

13. Visit a cemetery: Pray over the graves of your departed loved ones, or visit a random graveyard and pray for those who may have no one to pray for them. Simply doing this gains a partial indulgence for those in purgatory. While you're there, sprinkle holy water on the graves. If you make this visit during the first eight days of the month dedicated to the Holy Souls (November 1-8), you can gain a plenary indulgence applicable to the souls in purgatory.

14. Eucharistic Adoration: visit the Blessed Sacrament to make acts of reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus on behalf of those in purgatory.

15. Sacrifices: practice small acts of self-denial throughout your day and offer these penances up for the poor souls.

16. Pray the Office of the Dead. You can find this in your volume of the *Liturgy of the Hours*.

17. Ask for the intercession of saints who were known to be great friends of the Holy Souls during their lifetime to join you in prayer for the faithful departed: Saint Nicholas of Tolentino, Saint Gertrude the Great, Saint Catherine of Genoa, Saint Padre Pio, Saint Philip Neri, Saint John Macías, Saint Faustina Kowalska, Saint Joseph, Our Lady, and others.

18. Special prayers: Throughout your day, offer up short and spontaneous prayers (ejaculatory prayers) for the holy souls. Consider buying purgatory books with more prayers and special devotions for the Holy Souls.

19. Repent of your offenses against God and go to confession: Confessing your own sins makes your prayers for souls of others more effective.

20. Spread devotion to the Holy Souls: Make others aware of the great need these suffering souls have for our prayers.



Remember that when we pray for the Holy Souls in Purgatory, they will pray for us and be witnesses for us at our judgment.

# Prayer for Priests and Religious Vocations



## Prayer Before the Blessed Sacrament for the Increase of Priestly and Religious Vocations

~ Archbishop Justin Rigali - St. Louis

Lord Jesus Christ,  
Son of the Eternal Father,  
Son of the Virgin Mary,  
we thank you for offering your life  
in sacrifice on the Cross,  
and for renewing this sacrifice  
in every Mass celebrated throughout the world.

In the Power of the Holy Spirit  
we adore you and proclaim  
your living presence in the Eucharist.

We desire to imitate the love you show us  
in your death and resurrection,  
by loving and serving one another.

We ask you to call many young people to religious life, and to provide the holy and generous priests that are so needed in your Church today. Lord Jesus, hear our prayer. Amen.

## Prayer for All Priests

~ Canon Formigão

My God, I pray for all Your priests  
and beseech You to sanctify them.  
Let them love their sacrifice deeply  
so that they may live it lovingly.  
I beg You, grant them obedience,  
a spirit of detachment,  
a chastity which is constant and true,  
a spirit of self-denial, humility,  
sweetness, zeal and dedication.  
I beg You that all those who may approach them  
may leave them with a greater love for You.  
My God, I pray that through them  
Your Kingdom on earth may grow and be  
strengthened. Amen.

**In this  
month of  
November,  
remember  
to give  
thanks to  
God for  
our priests  
and those  
in religious  
vocations.**

## Let Us Pray For:

*The Holy Father:* fill him with Your grace, Lord;  
*Cardinals, Archbishops and Bishops:* give them your gifts, Lord;  
*Diocesan Priests:* never leave them, Lord;  
*Priests in seminary work:* give them Your wisdom, Lord;  
*Priests in hospital work:* give them constancy, Lord;  
*Priests who are ill:* heal them, Lord;  
*Priests in danger:* deliver them, Lord;  
*Priests who are weak:* strengthen them, Lord;  
*Priests who are poor:* relieve them, Lord;  
*Priests who are zealous:* help them, Lord;  
*Priests who want to love You:* enkindle their hearts, Lord;  
*Priests who are sad:* console them, Lord;  
*Priests who are worried:* give them peace, Lord;  
*Priests who are old:* sustain them, Lord;  
*Priests who are young:* impel them for your glory, Lord;  
*Priests who are alone:* accompany them, Lord;  
*Missionary priests:* protect them, Lord;  
*Priests who are preachers:* enlighten them, Lord;  
*Priests who direct souls:* instruct them, Lord;  
*Parish priests:* make them shepherds, Lord;  
*Priests and religious who have died:* bring them to Glory, Lord.

~ Richard Cardinal Cushing



## Mass for the Repose of Souls

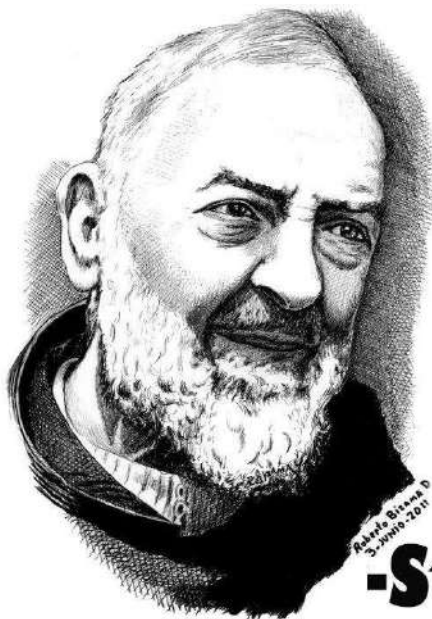
The practice of offering the holy Mass for the repose of the soul of the deceased originates in the early church. The catechism teaches, "From the beginning the church has honored the memory of the dead and offered prayers in suffrage for them, above all the Eucharistic sacrifice, so that, thus purified, they may attain the beatific vision of God" (No. 1032). Praying for the repose of the souls of the deceased is rooted in the Old Testament. Judas Maccabees offered prayers and sacrifices for the Jewish soldiers who had died wearing pagan amulets, which were forbidden by the Torah. II Maccabees reads, "Turning to supplication, they prayed that the sinful deed might be fully blotted out" (12:43). Continuing, "(Judas Maccabees) took up a collection among all his soldiers, which he sent to Jerusalem to provide for an expiatory sacrifice. In doing this he acted in a very excellent and noble way, inasmuch as he had the resurrection of the dead in view; for if he were not expecting the fallen to rise again, it would have been useless and foolish to pray for them in death. But if he did this with a view to the splendid reward that awaits those who had gone to rest in godliness, it was a holy and pious thought. Thus, he made atonement for the dead that they might be freed from sin" (12:46).

In light of the saving work of Our Lord Jesus Christ, we believe that when a person dies, he faces his particular judgment and must render an account of his life. If that person has died fundamentally believing in God and in a state of grace, but with venial sins and the hurt caused by sin, then God in His divine love and mercy will first purify the soul. After this purification has been completed, the soul will have the holiness and purity needed to share in the beatific vision in heaven. The faithful here on earth can help those souls undergoing purification. The Vatican Council II affirmed: "This sacred council accepts loyally the venerable faith of our ancestors in the living communion which exists between us and our brothers who are in the glory of heaven or who are yet being purified after their death." ("Dogmatic Constitution on the Church," No. 51).

Therefore, just as we pray for each other and share each other's burdens now, the faithful on earth can offer prayers and sacrifices to help the departed souls undergoing purification, and no better prayer could be offered than that of the holy sacrifice of the Mass. Pope Leo XIII in his encyclical "Mirae Caritatis" (1902) beautifully elaborated this point and emphasized the connection between the communion of saints with the Mass: "The grace of mutual love among the living, strengthened and increased by the sacrament of the Eucharist, flows, especially by virtue of the sacrifice (of the Mass), to all who belong to the communion of saints. For the communion of saints is simply ... the mutual sharing of help, atonement, prayers and benefits among the faithful, those already in the heavenly fatherland, those consigned to the purifying fire, and those still making their pilgrim way here on earth. These all form one city, whose head is Christ, and whose vital principle is love. Faith teaches that although the august sacrifice can be offered to God alone, it

can nevertheless be celebrated in honor of the saints now reigning in heaven with God, who has crowned them, to obtain their intercession for us, and also, according to apostolic tradition, to wash away the stains of those brethren who died in the Lord but without yet being wholly purified."

Therefore, the offering of Mass and other prayers or sacrifices for the intentions of the faithful departed are truly good and holy acts.



**We must  
empty  
Purgatory  
with our  
prayers.  
-St. Padre Pio**

St. Ambrose stated, "We have loved them during life; let us not abandon them in death, until we have conducted them by our prayers into the house of the Lord." When we face the death of someone, even a person who is not Catholic, to have a Mass offered for the repose of his soul and to offer our prayers are more beneficial and comforting than any other sympathy card or bouquet of flowers. Most importantly, we always should remember our own dearly departed loved ones in the holy Mass and through our own prayers and sacrifices to help in their gaining eternal rest.

The Catholic Encyclopedia explains this ancient tradition as follows: "Gregorian Masses consist of a series of thirty Masses offered on consecutive days for the soul of a deceased person. They receive their name because of a story written by Gregory the Great (died 604) in the DIALOGUES (4:55; PL 77: 416-421) about a Monk who obtained release from Purgatory after thirty Masses were offered on his behalf. On two occasions, the Sacred Congregation on Indulgences (March 15, 1884; August 24, 1888) declared the confidence of the faithful in the efficacy to God's mercy and good pleasure, and asserted their approval by the Church." One suggestion to obtain the Masses is at The National Divine Mercy Shrine (<https://www.shrineofdivinemeracy.org/mass-gregorian>).

Let us keep in our prayers all of our faithful departed.

## KEEP OUR SICK SISTERS & BROTHERS IN YOUR DAILY PRAYERS

Call Helen Husky 440-232-3462 to add a member to the list.

Bobby	Marty Franck	Joe Morici
Bernie Antonino	Bob Garcar	Molly O'Leary
Jan Boczek	Kathy Hlad	Eleanor Phillips
Mario Bruschi	Kyle Hrabusa	Judy Purdy
Jane Dahlhausen	Michael Hurley	Anthony Rossi
Virginia DeJesus	Tony Kazmierczak	Abbot C. Schwartz OSB
Roy Evans	Irene Kovar	Fr. Kevin Shemuga
Margie Ferfolia	Jonathan Lipreads	Fr. Ralph Wiatrowski
Michele Ferrara	Mark Magda	

**FOR ALL THE INTENTIONS  
IN OUR ONLINE PRAYER  
BASKET, LORD, HEAR  
OUR PRAYER.**



### † OUR CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILIES OF OUR RECENTLY DECEASED †

Joseph Bauer  
Joseph Russo, Sr., Prayer Group member

## Deceased Souls From the Past Year

**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.**

O Lord, your sorrowing Mother stood by your cross; help us in our sorrows to share your sufferings.

Bob Burian	Susan Gross	Judge James Murphy	Frank Russo
Alfred Burke	Manda Hoffman	Michael Pappadakis	Robert Schwanzl
Cathy Castro	Diane Mary Isphording	Frank Raso	Charles Snyderburn
Joseph Depalo	Bishop Richard Lennon	Dominic Rizzo	Vivian Rose Zaratsian
Bernard Flechler	Fr. Bob Lorkowski	Viola Rizzo	
Louise Frein	Shirley Marsh	Rita Roman	
Mike Friess	Teresa Morris	Richard Russelo	



The Prayer of St. Gertrude, below, is one of the most famous of the prayers for souls in purgatory. St. Gertrude the Great (pictured at left) was a Benedictine nun and mystic who lived in the 13th century. According to tradition, our Lord promised her that 1000 souls would be released from purgatory each time it is said devoutly.

**Eternal Father, I offer You the Most Precious Blood of Your Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal Church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen.**

**BEST WISHES to our Spiritual Children celebrating birthdays and special occasions in the month of November!**

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